

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 INSE-00 SCA-01

VO-03 L-03 SSO-00 /044 W

-----100959Z 122078 /20

O 100905Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6225

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBRERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LA LUMPUR 0966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, MY

SUBJECT: WCRP RESCUE ACTIVITES AND AUSTRALIAN WILLINGNESS TAKE SOME
BOAT CASES

REF: (A) SINGAPORE 494 (NOTAL), (B) SINGAPORE 524

(NOTAL), (C) HONG KONG 1671 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. UNHCR REP AND AUSTRALIAN DCM CONFIRM GOM OFFER
ALLOW REFUGEES ABOARD "ROLAND" TO RETURN TO SHORE ON "4 FOR 3"
BASIS. UNHCR REP HAS CALLED MEETING FEB 14 OF LOCAL MISSION
REPS OF COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM.
AUSTRALIANS WILL ACCEPT SOMEWHERE FROM 100-200 REFUGEES
FROM AMONG THOSE ABOARD ROLAND OR CURRENTLY ASHORE. END
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SUMMARY.

2. UNHCR REP SAMPATKUMAR AND AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY
HIGH COMMISSIONER MAYNE-WILSON HAVE BEEN IN
TOUCH WITH US ON "ROLADN" CASE AND GOM AGREEMENT
TO ALLOW REFUGEES FROM ROLAND ASHORE ON "FOUR OUT,
THREE IN" FORMULA REPORTED REF B. SAMPATKUMAR

HAS SCHEDULED MEETING MONDAY (FEB 14) WITH LOCAL REPS OF RECEIPT COUNTRIES (NAMELY US, FRANCE, BELGIUM, WEST GERMANY, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA AND POSSIBLY SWITZERLAND) TO REVIEW REFUGEE SITUATION IN MALAYSIA.

3. MAYNE-WILSON HAS TOLD US THAT HIS MISSION HAS RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION FROM CANBERRA TO ACCEPT ANYWHERE FROM 100-200 BOAT CASE REFUGEES FROM THE ROLAND OR CURRENTLY ASHORE HERE (HE IS USING 150 AS WORKING ESTIMATE). GOA HOPES OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO WILL PITCH IN, BUT HE NOTED THAT IN VIEW OF IMPRESSIVE US EFFORTS TO DATE AND ONGOING PROGRAM THAT SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE EXPECTED ASSUME MORE OF THE BURDEN.

4. COMMENT: AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN TAKING ADDITIONAL REFUGEES (ALTHOUGH THEY TOOK SOME EARLY LAST YEAR THEY HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ANY OF THE REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED HERE AFTER 1975) UNDOUBTEDLY PROMPTED BY ROLAND AFFAIR AND MAY BE ONLY POSITIVE CONSEQUENCE OF THIS SNAFU. WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO BOTH SAMPATKUMAR AND MAYNE-WILSON THAT US PROGRAM, WHILE SHIFTING GEARS (SEE REF C), IS CONTINUING. WE HAVE ALSO MADE CLEAR OUR BELIEF THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ENCOURAGE GOM TO ACCEPT RETURN TO STATUS QUO ANTE AND ALLOW UNCONDITIONAL RETURN OF PREVIOUSLY LANDED REFUGEES WHO HAD GONE ABOARD ROLAND, CITING NEW AUSTRALIAN OFFER AS CONCRETE EVIDENCE
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OF CONTINUED PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL RESETTLEMENT EFFORT.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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